

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
September 8, 2017

CONTACT:
p.spokesman@op.gov.eg

President El Sisi Meets Vietnam's Prime Minister

President Abdel Fattah El Sisi met with Vietnam's Prime Minister Nguyễn Xuân Phúc on Thursday. The Vietnamese prime minister lauded the outcome of President El Sisi's visit to the country and noted that he has instructed the ministers and officials to start implementing what was agreed upon during the visit so as to confirm the Vietnamese government's keenness on enhancing cooperation with Egypt across various fields, especially at the economic level and trade. He also thanked Egypt's role in evacuating the Vietnamese expatriates in Libya back to their country between 2011 and 2014, noting that Vietnam highly appreciates Egypt's assistance.

President El Sisi expressed Egypt's interest in learning more and benefiting from Vietnam's experience in driving the economy and development. The President affirmed that Egypt's efforts to assist the Vietnamese expatriates in Libya were to avoid the loss of life.

The meeting touched on a number of issues of mutual interest. The Vietnamese prime minister expressed his country's keenness on enhancing trade between the two countries to reach one billion dollars annually. He noted Vietnam's interest in importing Egyptian products, especially chemical industry products, cotton and medicines. He expressed his country's keenness on developing cooperation across fields including agriculture, transportation, tourism and education. In this regard, he thanked the Egyptian government for offering scholarships to the Vietnamese students to study the Arabic language in Egypt. He noted that next year will mark the 55th anniversary of establishing diplomatic relations between Egypt and Vietnam and looked forward to hosting cultural activities on this occasion, which the President welcomed. The President also instructed increasing the scholarships offered to the Vietnamese student studying the Arabic language, so as to enhance cultural relations. The President also expressed Egypt's interest in areas where Vietnam has extensive experience such as establishing industrial zones, marine arsenals and fish farming. The President welcomed increasing trade between the two countries and highlighted the great potential for advancing cooperation at the government level or private sector.

The meeting also touched on ways to enhance cooperation between Egypt and countries in Southeast Asia, after Egypt signed a friendship and cooperation agreement with ASEAN so as to enhance Egypt's relations with ASEAN member states.

##